

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 165010
ORIGIN IO-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY: IO/TRC:HWEBB:CMS

APPROVED BY: IO:ESWOPE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

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FOR WALKER A DIAMANTI VIA ECON

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTIONCAIRO INFO SECSTATE, LONDON FROM
ALEXANDRIA JULY 14:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ALEXANDRIA 0608

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EWWT, PORT, IMCO, EG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN SUPPORT FOR ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVES ON MARINE
OIL POLLUTION

REF: CAIRO 11645 AND PREVIOUS (NOTAL)

1. I CALLED ON ADMIRAL SAMMAK AT 0900 JULY 14. IT APPEARS HIS
"INABILITY GET APPROVAL" FOR ENGINEER MOUSTAFA TAWZI TO ATTEND
THIRED SESSION OF INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP ON TANKER SAFETY
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION IN LONDON JULY 18 THROUGH 22, WAS THE
CLASSICIAL ARABIC "DON'T SAY NO TO THE GENTLEMAN" SYNDROME.

2. THIS MORNING I AM INFORMED (A) THAT HE NEVER HAD ASKED
APPROVAL FOR ATTENDANCE AND (B) HIS APPEAL FOR EMBASSY TO APPROACH
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MINISTER HAD MEANT MARTIME TRANSPORT MINISTER ABDALLAH, NOT FOREIGN
MINISTER. WITHOUT ARGUING DISCREPANCIES FROM JULY 12 MEETING, I
PRESSED ON TO NOTE HE DID ASSURE ME THEN THAT HE AGREED TO
IMPORTANCE OF GOE DELEGATE ATTENDANCE AND WE DID NOW HAVE FOREIGN
MINISTRY APPROVAL.

3. SAMMAK THEN EXPLAINED THAT HE COULDN'T SEND ENGINEER MOUSTAFA

WITHOUT HIS OWN MINISTER'S APPROVAL. HE SAID HE HAD EXPECTED MINISTER IN ALEXANDRIA THIS VERY MORNING, WHEN HE WOULD HAVE SOUGHT HIS CONCURRENCE, BUT AT LAST MOMENT VISIT WAS CANCELLED, MINISTER WAS AWAY FROM OFFICE ELSEWHERE, NOW THERE COULD BE NO DECISION BEFORE MONDAY WHICH, ALAS, WOULD BE TOO LATE.

4. KNOWING A RUNAROUND WHEN BEING FED SAME, I SUGGESTED THAT I WOULD IMMEDIATELY INFORM EMBASSY AND ASK THEM TO TRY TO TRACK DOWN MINISTER AND GET HIS ORAL APPROVAL.

5. SAMMAK HASTILY BACKTRACKED. IT WASN'T REALLY NECESSARY HAVE GOE DELEGATE IN LONDON BECAUSE EGYPTIAN POSITION PAPER HAD BEEN SUBMITTED AT PREVIOUS SESSION, BACKING US INITIATIVES, AND THAT WOULD NOT BE CHANGED. HE SAID WHAT HAS TO BE DONE NOW IS HAVE USDEL APPROACH OTHER DELS FOR SUPPORT. WHEN I PLEADED THAT FOR THE LAST TWO MONTHS WE HAD BEEN AGREEING THAT IT WAS EGYPTIAN LOBBYING WITH RELUCTANT THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES THAT WAS AN ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT, SAMMAK BLANDLY REPLIED THAT THIRD WORLD DELEGATES "WOULD READ OUR PAPER, SEE THAT THIS WAS EGYPT'S POSITION AND FOLLOW US."

6. SAMMAK THEN SAID HE HAD TALKED WITH ENGINEER MOUSTAFA LATE YESTERDAY AND HE AGREED NO NEED FOR EGYPTIAN PRESENCE. TO BE ON SAFE SIDE, HOWEVER, MOUSTAFA RECOMMENDED FONMIN BE INSTRUCTED NOT RPT NOT SEND EMBASSY LONDON OFFICER TO REPRESENT THEM, BECAUSE OFFICER HANDLING THIS ACTIVITY WOULD HARM RATHER THAN HELP MATTERS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SAMMAK SAID HE WAS CALLING IMMEDIATELY TO AMR MOUSSA (DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEPT) TO HAVE LONDON SO INSTRUCTED.

7. COMMENT: OBVIOUSLY SAMMAK OPPOSES EGYPTIAN ATTENDANCE AT TSPP INTERSESSIONAL. GIVEN THIS ATTITUDE I FEAR IT MIGHT BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE (OR AT LEAST DAMAGING TO FUTURE CONGEN/SAMMAK RELATIONS) TO GO OVER HIS HEAD. TIME ALONE (WITH FRIDAY SABBATH AT HAND) MAY BE AGAINST THIS ANYWAY, BUT I LEAVE IT TO EMBASSY AND DEPT HOW MUCH FURTHER TO PURSUETHIS. CHASE UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OILS, POLLUTION, MARINE TRANSPORTATION, SEMINARS, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: STATE
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770752/aaaabsxx.tel
Line Count: 104
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Litigation History:
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Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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TAGS: EWWT, PORG, EG, IMCO, (TAWZI, MOUSTAFA)
To: THE HAGUE
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